

■ The NCL's 2019 Basic and Advanced Public Library Training Program

In an effort to aid librarians throughout the nation in learning of recent trends in the library field and obtaining professional knowledge, National Central Library (NCL) held the basic and advanced training program in public library management. They are held in various regions throughout Taiwan so as to lessen the travel strain on students and to ensure the improvement in professional service and knowledge in local librarians.

This year's plan includes six sessions of classes: the basic course that ran from April to May in Yilan, Taoyuan, and Miaoli; an advanced course that ran from the end of May to June and then again in September in Tainan, New Taipei City, and Pingtung.



The participants are attentive to the course.

This series of training courses will be taught by Taiwan professors and experts in the field of library and information science. The basic course will focus on the design of library space and environment, quality control, reference works and reference services, information technology, reader services and reading promotion, collection development and acquisitions. The advance course will treat such topics as public library services for different ages, the collection and digitization of ancient books and manuscripts, innovative services for public libraries and the

management of relations between libraries and community partners.

■ Workshop on Building a Collaboration & Sharing System and Operations Management System for Public Libraries Held at NCL



Workshop participants from public libraries pictured with Director-General Tseng at NCL.

On June 25-26, 2019, the National Central Library (NCL) held a workshop on Building a Collaboration & Sharing System and Operations Management System for Public Libraries, with the aim of building an operations management system for all Taiwan's public libraries and enhancing the professional skills of library staff. The Director of Shanghai Library Chao Chen kindly accepted an invitation to attend the workshop, where he spoke with fellow librarians from Taiwan's public libraries about the outstanding achievements made in the development and operation of Shanghai Library's main and branch libraries.

On the morning of June 25, Director Chen gave a lecture on "Shanghai Library, Present and Future," in which he shared Shanghai Library's practical experience in promoting alliance cities' main and branch library operations systems. That afternoon, Prof. Pao-nuan Hsieh, associate professor of Department of Library and Information Science at National Taiwan University, delivered a lecture entitled "How Wonderful Library Services Are." On June 26, Prof. Hao-ren Ke, University Librarian and the

professor of Graduate Institute of Library & Information Studies at National Taiwan Normal University, lectured on “Building Public Library Systems for Collaboration and Sharing.”

At the end of the workshop, NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng invited the Director of Taipei Public Library Shi-chang Hung, Director of Tainan Public Library Yu-chen Hung, Director of Kaohsiung Public Library Cheng-yi Pan, to participate in an informal discussion.



Director-General Tseng (front row 2nd right) leads Director Chen (front row 1st left) and workshop participants on a visit to Taipei's Hsin-Yi Family Indoor Playground and Children's Library.

■ The NCL Holds the 2019 Summer Reading Lecture Series on “Taiwan’s Food and Drink Culture in Literature”

The National Central Library (NCL) organized six lectures for summer 2019 which took place on Saturday afternoons between May and July. Six well-known scholars and authors were invited to deliver the series of special lectures, entitled “A Muse on the Tip of My Tongue: Taiwan’s Food and Drink Culture in Literature.” The lectures explored themes surrounding genealogy and change in the culture of food and drink in Taiwanese literature. These themes ranged from Taiwan’s affection for its traditional flavors, women’s food and drink, and food and drink in Taiwanese poetry to Hakka food and drink. Members of the public attending this feast had the opportunity to savor some of

Taiwan’s delicious delicacies and flavors through the medium of literature. The lectures in this series were as follows:

May 18 “Genealogy and Change in Taiwan’s Literary Food Culture.” Yu-chen Chen, Associate Professor, Department of Taiwan Culture, Languages and Literature, National Taiwan Normal University.

May 25 “Taiwan Flavor” Chen-fu Yeh (pen name Tung Chiao, Professor of Department of Chinese Literature, National Central University.

June 15 “The Ups and Downs of ‘Five-Willows House’ Fish: A History of Fish-Eating in Taiwan.” Pin-tsang Tseng, Associate Research Fellow of the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica.

July 6 “A Banquet of Culinary Literature in Your Own Kitchen: Contemporary Taiwanese Women’s Prose on Food and Drink.” Hsiu-mei Lo, Associate Professor of Department of Chinese Literature, National Chung Hsing University.

July 13 “The Lurking Fish-Dragons Surge to Convey: Food and Drink in Taiwan’s Classical Poetry.” Mei-ling Yu, Professor of Department of Chinese Literature, Feng Chia University.

July 27 “Hakka Food and Drink in Literature.” Seo-gim Lo, Honorary Professor of Department of Hakka Language and Social Sciences, National Central University.



The summer reading lecture series have attracted enthusiastic participation of the audience.